

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to JP 11-4347, which is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and of which a copy, together with a complete English translation, is attached.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with a Request For Continued Examination, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing and returning a copy of the attached Form PTO-1449.